First Regular Session Seventieth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 15-0984.01 Duane Gall x4335

HOUSE BILL 15-1284

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Winter and Roupe, Garnett

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Grantham and Hodge,

House Committees

Senate Committees

Transportation & Energy

101

102

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING MEASURES TO ENHANCE PROGRAM EFFICIENCY FOR SHARED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

Under Colorado's renewable energy standard, qualifying retail utilities are required to obtain a portion of their energy from renewable sources, including customer-sited facilities such as rooftop solar panels. Recent legislation allowed customers who wished to install such facilities, but whose property was not well suited to that purpose, to buy into a centrally located facility with other customers (subscribers). This Reading Unamended March 24, 2015

arrangement is known as a community solar garden or CSG.

The existing CSG statute requires a subscriber to live in the same county as the CSG unless the subscriber lives in a county with a population of less than 20,000, in which case the CSG may be in an adjacent county that also has a population of less than 20,000. The bill deletes these population requirements. It also increases the minimum number of subscribers in a CSG from the current minimum of 10 to at least 25 for installations larger than 500 kilowatts. Provisions governing a utility's recovery of costs attributable to operation of a CSG are amended to more precisely define the types of costs for which recovery is allowed and the methods by which they may be recovered.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 40-2-127, **amend** (2)

(b) (II) as follows:

40-2-127. Community energy funds - community solar gardens - definitions - rules - legislative declaration. (2) Definitions.

As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(b) In addition:

(II) "Subscriber" means a retail customer of a qualifying retail utility who owns a subscription and who has identified one or more physical locations to which the subscription shall be IS attributed. Such physical locations shall MUST be within either the same municipality or the same county as the community solar garden; except that, if the subscriber lives in a county with a population of less than twenty thousand, according to the most recent available census figures, such physical locations may be in another county, also with a population of less than twenty thousand, within the service territory of the same qualifying retail utility and also IN THE SAME COUNTY AS, OR A COUNTY adjacent to, that of the community solar garden. The subscriber may change from time

-2- 1284

1	to time the premises to which the community solar garden electricity
2	generation shall be attributed, so long as the premises are within the
3	geographical limits allowed for a subscriber.
4	
5	SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
6	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
7	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

-3- 1284